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REMARKS

The applicants have studied the Office Action dated November 1, 2005. It is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Claims 1, 8, 12, 13, 18 and 20 have been amended and claims 10 and 11 have canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Reconsideration and allowance of all of the claims in view of the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claim 18 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112. Claim 18 has been amended to overcome the rejection.

Claims 1-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Yang, US Patent Number 6,748,085.

Claims 12-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. (102(3) as being anticipated by Kurihara, US Patent Number 6,272,116. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Amended claim 1 recites "a plug-in detection circuit for determining a type of an audio output device coupled to an I/O jack and outputting the determined type of the audio output device to the stereo/mono control unit;
wherein the stereo/mono control unit receives an audio mux input identifying a type of a signal that the codec received from the audio mux, and the stereo/mono control unit provides a control output to the codec based on the determined type of the audio output device and the identified type of the signal." The references cited by the Examiner do not disclose a stereo/mono control unit that provides a control output to a codec based on the determined type of the audio output device and the identified type of the signal.

In the Yang reference, when a mono audio device is connected to the computer 100 through an audio input socket 106, the right channel R of the audio input socket 106 is grounded. In contrast, when a stereo audio device is connected to the audio input socket 106, the right channel is not grounded. (See col. 4, lines 37-48; col. 1, lines 53-63 of the reference). Thus, in the Yang reference, the grounding of the right channel R is determined by the type of an input device connected to the input socket 106, not by the type of any output device.

However, claim 1 recites "a plug-in detection circuit for determining a type of an audio output device coupled to an I/O jack ... stereo/mono control unit receives an audio mux input identifying a type of a signal that the codec received from the audio mux, and the stereo/mono control unit provides a control output to the codec based on the determined type

of the audio output device and the identified type of the signal." The Yang reference does not disclose determining a type of an audio output device, identifying a type of a signal that the codec received from the audio mux, and providing a control output to a codec based on the determined type of the audio output device and the identified type of the signal, as recited in the claims. The Yang reference only discloses that the right channel is grounded based on the type of input device connected to the input socket 106.

Claim 12 recites a similar language. Furthermore, the Kurihara reference does not address the deficiencies of the Yang reference.

Thus, claim 1-21 distinguish over the art of record.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1-21 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) should be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application and all of the claims are in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are requested.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 17-0026. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 not accounted for, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this page is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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